

# The GARZETTE

Dec, 2004

Volume 13, Issue 12



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## From the President's Desk

*It's November and the Alfred hamfest has come and gone. I had a great time. I hope you got out there and found some goodies in the bone yard. It was great weather again this year. I hear a lot of people upgraded or got their license.*

*Congratulations to all.*

*The program last month was great. There are so many things to do in Amateur radio. Balloon flights are just a few that covers several parts of the hobby.*

*The Christmas party is coming, hope to see you there. I here there will be great door prizes and good food and smiling faces everywhere.*

*As I look back on this year, it has been a good one. There have been ups and downs but the positives seem to out weigh the bad. I'm glad I got to meet everyone along the way. I'm still building the station always trying to do something different. It's fun. Digital mode and satellites are fun. Amateur radio is fun.*

*If everyone in the club talk to just one person, and that person became a amateur. It would be over a hundred new operators this year. 12 months to work on one person, should not be to hard. Each person must try to get one person interested in the hobby this year. Is that to big a challenge? Why don't you make that your new years resolution.*

*January is coming and a New Year. Techfest is on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. February is the fund raiser again and elections for officers. April has weird weather. May is Dayton Hamfest. June is field day. Are you an ARRL member?*

*To keep our Special service club status we need to make sure at least 51% of GARS members are a member of the ARRL. Visit the web site if your not a member and sign up.*

*There are many more contest and special events on the air. You can find them in QST, CQ, World Radio magazines.*

*You'll find a list of ARRL Contests in the issue.*

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.*

*See you on the air.*

*73 till next time,  
David, KA4KKF*

## The GARZETTE

*The GARZETTE* is the official monthly organ of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

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If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word format or by email to [wa4zxv@arrl.net](mailto:wa4zxv@arrl.net). Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via email to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the amateur radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of *The GARZETTE* articles by other amateur radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and to *The GARZETTE*.

The GARZETTE is published each month with the assistance of Hal Manning, who prints the news letter. Rick Patchin, KD4RFK does the final production work on *The GARZETTE* by folding & labeling. John A. Davis, WB4QDX, stamps and gets the end product to the Post Office each month. Paul McInnish, K4BET who manages email delivery. Many thanks to each of them and all article contributors.

Deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For any additional information contact:

Newsletter Editor:

Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV  
(770-840-9664)  
[wa4zxv@schklar.com](mailto:wa4zxv@schklar.com)

All correspondence relating to articles posted in *The GARZETTE* or for information concerning advertising rates should be directed to the following address:

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society  
P.O. Box 88  
Lilburn, GA 30048  
Attn: Newsletter Editor

## From Win Jackson, N1TWX Classes produce Licensed Radio Amateurs

As a result of the Fall 2004 Technician class, I am proud to announce 3 new Hams have passed their tests and are eligible for a one years free membership to GARS ! They are Mr.. R. Lee Craymer who already purchased a VX5R and can't wait to try it out from his airplane, Mr.. David Harrison ( missed only one question ) and has become very interested in learning more about his fathers' Kenwood TS520, and Ms Jan Jennings who also is mentoring a young man, Carmine, he also took the class but not the test yet. Jan is a real Saint.

I just hope David, Lee Jan and Carmine have time to join GARS because each person would be a great asset to our club.

I also had 4 people sign up for the General Class and each of these were former students of mine in the Technician Class ( what a complement ). I only know of one person Marvin Atherton, KG4FHB, who passed both the written AND CODE to become a General Class operator.

All students had nearly perfect attendance ( except for one who dropped out early) and they deserve a big.

## JOB WELL DONE !

Editors Note: Win has done a great job elmering and training new amateur radio operators. We should all recognize Win as an exceptional asset to our club and the ham community.

Win it is you that deserves the **JOB WELL DONE!!**

...Norm

Why do ships and aircraft in trouble use "mayday" as their call for help? This comes from the French word m'aidez - meaning "help me" - and is pronounced "mayday." (Note: not exactly.... it's pronounced "med-ay", but close enough)

THE GARGETTE

## ARES Moments

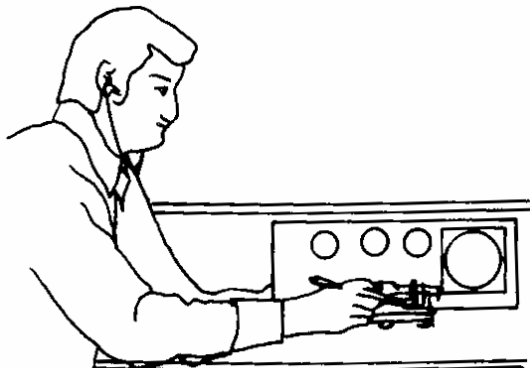


Time for a New Year's resolution: become involved in emergency communications (emcomm) or take your involvement to a higher level. If you're not yet regis-

tered with Gwinnett Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) start with the web site (<http://www.gwinnettares.org/>) and take the first steps toward getting an ARES badge.

Then sign up for the ARRL Emergency Communication Course Level 1. If you're already in ARES, take the level II or level III courses. Consider Red Cross disaster training or check out online training opportunities with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/crslist.asp>.

Resolve to check into the Monday evening ARES net more often (147.075 21:00) or attend the monthly meeting (4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 19:30). Put your station on emergency power. Prepare a Go Kit for immediate response. Expand your technical capability with packet, get on 440, and practice message handling.



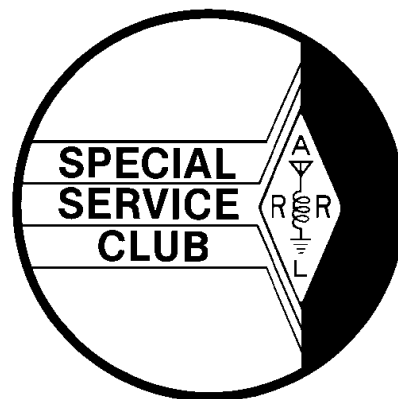
## ARRL Contest Calendar

<p><b>January</b>  1 - Straight Key Night  8 - 9 ARRL RTTY Round-Up</p> <p>22 - 24 ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes</p> <p><b>February</b>  19 - 20 ARRL International DX Contest (CW)</p> <p><b>March</b>  5 - 6 ARRL International DX Contest (Phone)</p> <p><b>June</b>  11 - 13 ARRL June VHF QSO Party  25 - 26 ARRL Field Day</p> <p><b>July</b>  9 - 10 IARU HF World Championships</p>	<p><b>August</b>  6 - 7 ARRL UHF Contest  20 - 21 ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest</p> <p><b>September</b>  10 - 12 ARRL September VHF QSO Party  17 - 18 ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest</p> <p><b>November</b>  5 - 7 ARRL November Sweepstakes (CW)  19 - 21 ARRL November Sweepstakes (Phone)</p> <p><b>December</b>  2 - 4 ARRL 160 Meter Contest  10 - 11 ARRL 10 Meter Contest</p>
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## GARS Apparel

Several items of clothing that feature our Club logo and/or your call sign are available to Club members. These items include polo shirts, sweat shirts, caps, jackets and other articles. Call sign badges can also be ordered. See Dan Keohan, KF4YSU, at the next Club meeting for a listing of items and their associated costs.

QST \*\*\*\*\* Contact a Club officer if you have a suggestion for an upcoming meeting speaker or topic. \*\*\*\*\*



## November Meeting Minutes

GARS Meeting Minutes November 9, 2004

David KA4KKF opened the meeting 19:37

Who knows what day Thursday is Veterans Day, if you a veteran please stand up. (Brief applause.)

Introductions around the room name and call sign.

David - treasurer's report, Dan handed out the treasurer's report The only item was a scholarship award for Melissa, Frank's daughter. Utilities remained the same. Ron had a question on the \$25.00. It was for water (drinks) for the workers at the dog show. Motion to accept the report from the floor seconded and approved by voice vote.

Minutes were published in the Garzette a motion was made to accept the approved as published seconded and approved by voice vote.

David - Eddie Repeater

Eddie repeater is mighty quiet, except for some interference we were receiving. Main receiver was shut down due to interference received you will need to have tone setup to access the repeater.

David - Membership

David B. at the last meeting at the church we had an application for membership KI4GZR he is a general. A motion was made from the floor to accept the new member. Seconded and approved by voice vote.

David - Mentioned that Bill WB4WTN passed his extra exam (applause heard)

David - didn't we have a membership last meeting? Somebody joined, Robert, Dan will send the application to David B. membership.

David - Anything else?

Susan mentioned that Andrea was the star she was awarded the Hiram Percy Maxim award. The youth section went well they were able to make a lot of contacts.

Susan had a box at the ARRL booth for donations to the white dove project. The box is here as you leave in case you want to make a donation. Be sure to put a slip of paper in with your call sign.

Steve WB2OGY - some of the youth that were not at the hamfest were at camp. If it wasn't for ham

radio we would have lost one he would still be wandering around the mountain.

David called on Carl Christmas Party chairman.

Carl - I'm taking reservations \$5 per person. The party will be December 3 at St Marguerite D'Y-ouville Church. Get there early for some social time 6:30pm it starts 7pm.

( address ) 85 Gloster Rd NW, Lawrenceville, GA 30044. Just off Highway 29 SW of Lawrenceville Highway.

David - Ray Techfest Chairman,

Ray Still looking for somebody for Echo link, DX and slow scan TV,

Norm - Can we put an announcement on the repeater for the meetings?

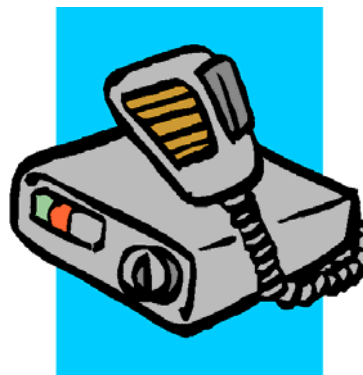
Davis Yes, we need to order a \$4.00 chip it's the interface from rs-232 to TTL in the repeater. It will be ordered this week.

Norm - at the dog show we needed some rope and stakes to mark off the bottom parking lot. If we buy some will they pay us for it. David has the rope he missed the dog show due to his sons wedding.

David - White Dove I would like to propose a \$100.00 donation. David made the motion it was seconded from the floor and approved by voice vote. Make check payable to? It's listed on the section manager's web site.

9:42 pm meeting adjourned, ten minute break before the program starts.

Amateur Radio, Balloons, GPS, and APRS it all fits together.



# GARS HOLIDAY PARTY

## December 3, 2004



The December program is the GARS Holiday Party. December 3rd at the St Marguerite D'Youville Church, 85 Gloster Rd NW, Lawrenceville, GA 30044. Just off Highway 29 SW of Lawrenceville ([directions](#) are on the web site). Buffet dinner will start at 7:00pm, but come early and get a good

seat. Carl needs a good count at least 4 days ahead, so make your reservations, you can settle up at the party. We've had some great parties, and this one will prove to be



## TRIVIA

Where did the term HAM come from? When did it come to popular use?

The \*real\* explanation appears to be lost in the mists of time. There are a number of theories. Some more plausible than others. The one you'll likely hear the most is about "little station HAM".

It goes like this. In the early days of radio, the government didn't assign call letters to amateurs. They just made up their own. Supposedly, three students at Harvard named Hyman, Almay, and Murray set up a station. They decided to use their initials as the call. Thus we have the little station HAM.

Another story you may hear is that ham is the result of a Cockney pronunciation of (h)amateur. But that is unlikely for two reasons. First, the term was in use in America before there was substantial amateur activity in Britain. And second, voice transmission wasn't used by amateurs of the era, so how did a pronunciation get propagated by Morse?

You have a better one, let's hear it!



## Tech Fest 2005

By: Ray Back

The Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society (GARS) Tech Fest is scheduled for **January 22, 2005** at St Marguerite D'Youville in Lawrenceville. The event will run from 11 AM until 3 PM. We have scheduled the following interactive exhibits.

- ARRL (American Radio Relay League)
- ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Services)
- Crew 73 Scouting at its best
- Contact Logging Programs and methods
- PSK-31 Digital Communications using Ham Radio and your computer.
- MARS (Military Affiliated Radio Stations)
- QCWA (Quarter Century Wireless Association)
- Using Morse Code or CW (continuous wave) with Ham Radio
- Metal Detecting tools and tricks
- High Altitude Ballooning

And more...



GAR still has a few spots open for displays and we still have spots open for the Chili Cook-off. So if you'd like to share your knowledge with others; or if you want to compete in the Chili Cook-off, please contact Ray Back, KI4GRJ, Tech Fest chairman at (678) 380-1728 or by email at [ki4grj@arrl.net](mailto:ki4grj@arrl.net).

Be sure to invite your non-ham friends. This should be a great family experience and a time for some of our younger citizens to become interested in the Magic of Amateur Radio.

### **Metro Atlanta Club Meetings**

#### **First Tuesday**

#### **Kennehoochee ARC**

First United Methodist Church in  
Marietta

Meeting begins at 7:30 PM  
Talk In 146.880(-)

#### **Second Monday Georgia Tech ARC**

Room W218  
Van Leer Electrical Engineering  
Bldg.  
Georgia Tech Campus  
Meeting at 7:00 PM

#### **First Thursday Atlanta Radio Club**

Georgia Red Cross HQ  
1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta  
Meeting is at 7:30 PM  
Talk In -146.820(-)

**N.E. Georgia ARC**  
Commerce Public Library  
Meeting is at 6:30 PM  
Talk In - 147.225(+)  
PL 123.0

#### **North Fulton Amateur Radio League**

Southern Skillet  
1037 Alpharetta St., Roswell  
Dinner at 6:30 PM, meeting at 7:30  
PM  
Talk In - 145.47(-)

**Second Thursday  
Alford Memorial Radio Club**  
Annistown Road Baptist Church  
Intersection of Annistown Rd &  
Spain Rd  
Stone Mountain  
Dinner at 6:00 PM  
Meeting at 7:30 PM  
Talk In - 146.760(-)

**First Saturday  
North GA QRP Club**  
Wieuca Baptist Church on  
Peachtree Rd/Wieuca, 10 AM

### **Metro Atlanta VE Exam Schedule**

GARS publishes Metro Atlanta area VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at [www.arrl-ga.org](http://www.arrl-ga.org)

(770) 973-2566

#### **First Saturday, Even Months**

9:00AM  
EOC Building  
Butch Nitz, AF4FS (770) 968-8780

#### **Second Tuesday**

7:00PM  
Walton EMC  
3645 Lenora Church Rd, Snellville  
Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA  
(770)498-7759

#### **Second Saturday, Odd Months**

ARRL VEC  
8:30 AM  
Stone Mountain Methodist Church  
5312 West Mountain St.  
Stone Mountain  
Bob Varone, W4ETN  
(770)978-3179

#### **Third Saturday**

CA VEC  
9:00AM  
Marietta First United Methodist Church  
Room 305, 56 Whitlock Ave  
Marietta  
David Still, WB4RRD

#### **Fourth Tuesday**

ARRL VEC  
7:00 PM  
United Way Service Center  
6279 Fairburn Road, Douglasville

#### **Third Sunday**

W5YI VEC  
3:00 – 5:00 PM  
St. John Neumann Church  
801 Tom Smith Road Lilburn  
Headphones Provided! Howie Gould,  
W9HG (770)921-8362

#### **Fourth Sunday**

2:30 PM  
Georgia Tech Student Center  
Room 301  
David Ziskind, KE4QLH  
(404) 966-6864

### **GARS Communication System**

#### **6 Meter Repeater**

53.110 (-1 MHz)  
82.5 PL Tone

#### **2 Meter Repeater**

147.075(+) MHz  
82.5 PL Tone

#### **70 Cm Repeater**

444.525(+) MHz  
82.5 PL Tone

#### **APRS**

144.390 -- 1200 Baud  
W4GR/Relay

#### **Main Repeater Site**

Oak Street, Lawrenceville

#### **Backup Repeater Site**

Lanier Mountain, Snellville

#### **Remote Receive Sites**

Bogan Road, Buford  
Goshen Springs Road, Norcross  
Lanier Mountain, Snellville



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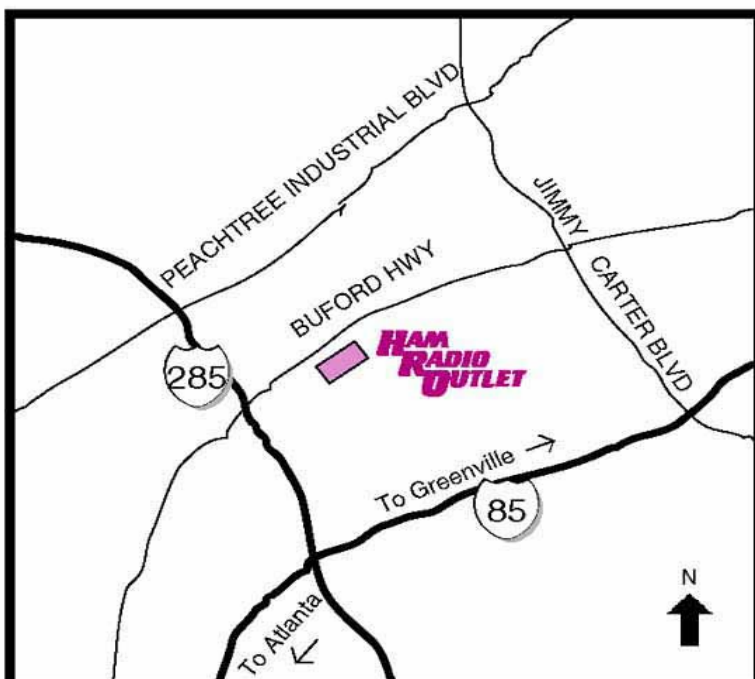
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Hustler  
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Larsen  
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Valor  
Van Gorden





**Amateur Radio in Gwinnett County**  
**Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society**  
**YOUR'RE INVITED!**  
**Meetings on the Second Tuesday of each Month**

**2 Meter Net: Mondays 8:00PM**

**Club Repeaters:**  
**6 Meters 53.110-**  
**2 Meters 147.075+ PL 82.5**  
**70 cm 444.525+ PL 82.5**  
**APRS 144.390 1200 Baud**  
**Sedan Node W4GR-7 1200**

**PLEASE VISIT OUR WEB SITE FOR MEETING LOCATIONS AND TIMES**

**WWW.GARS.ORG**

## Contests? What is a contest?

In this issue of the Garzette, we've listed ARRL contest dates. I've been an amateur for over 30 years and, other than Field Day, I still haven't worked a contest. I guess my attention span is a little short to spend several hours hunting contacts. Or, maybe I'm just a little timid and need to get someone to show me what it's like and how to do it.

But that's not true for everyone. Contesting is probably one of the big money makers for the big Ham Radio supply stores. Big beams, amplifiers, rotors, towers, software and even computers are often purchased to chase contacts during contests. If you want to see, what some of the stations look like, you can look around the SEDX web site, <http://www.sedxc.org/>. On the other hand, many contests are worked with low power. For a QRP station example, take a look here <http://2hams.net/ARCI/Member%20Photo%20Page/WB4JM%20PSK31%20station%202004.htm> or check out <http://www.qrparci.org/>

Maybe as a club project on a contest weekend we can get together somewhere, put up an antenna and get some of our testers to give us some "on the air pointers".

Contest information web sites:

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.html>

[http://www.qth.com/ka9fox/links\\_contest\\_info.shtml](http://www.qth.com/ka9fox/links_contest_info.shtml)

Norm, WA4ZXV



**Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society**  
**P.O. Box 88**  
**Lilburn, GA 30048**

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

☐ NEW MEMBER  
☐ RENEWAL

## GARS USE ONLY

Date App Rcvd \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Pmt Rcvd \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Payment Amt \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mem Appr \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Database \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Amateur Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_

License

☐ Class

☐ Novice

☐ Technician

General

☐ Advanced

☐ Extra

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Work Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ (mm/dd/yy)

ARRL Member Yes No Life

Interests \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer to receive the GARZETTE newsletter by: US Mail Email (please check only one)

### Type of Membership

- ☐ Individual \$30.00 annually  
☐ Student \$15.00 annually  
☐ Senior \$15.00 annually (over age 65)  
☐ Family \*\* \$35.00 annually

\*\* Available for family members residing at the same address

### Optional Contributions

Repeater Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarship Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Additional Family Members \*\*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ (mm/dd/yy)

License Class Technician General Extra ARRL Member Yes No Life

Interests \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ (mm/dd/yy)

License Class Technician General Extra ARRL Member Yes No Life

Interests \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to abide by the By-Laws of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society and understand that membership is subject to the approval of the Club.

Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

## Executive Committee Meeting

All interested individuals are invited and encouraged to attend the monthly Executive Committee Meeting. Presently, these gatherings occur one hour in advance of the regular Club Meeting. The location is in a classroom immediately near the Club meeting space.

Several years ago these Ex. Comm. meetings were instituted for the purpose of saving more time in our Club meetings for "radio talk" verses the business of the Club. To that end, they have been successful. However, some members enjoy ALL aspects of the Club, and as such, are encouraged to come, participate, share insights and opinions! We will all be benefited by the sharing of ideas & experience.

For the latest Club news, visit the GARS Website at:

[www.gars.org](http://www.gars.org)

## Club Recurring Calen-

- GARS Monthly club meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM. Check the Web Site for Location.
- Every Monday at 8 PM local time: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net on the GARS 2 meter repeater
- Every Wednesday at 9 PM local time: GARS 6 meter net on the GARS 6 meter repeater
- Every Saturday at 8AM local time: GARS Weekly Family Breakfast, Golden Corral Restaurant, Riverside Drive, Lawrenceville
- 15th of each month: Deadline for submittal of articles for the following month's GARZETTE

## GARS Elmers

Many of us Hams got interested in the hobby (service) as a result of some influence an experienced Ham had on us. The GARS organization is blessed with a lot of talented members that are willing to share their knowledge. The following list is made up of those individuals willing to serve as Elmers. Hopefully, this list will grow, and in time, maybe we'll get more who are willing to add a particular area of expertise.

KF4KSE David Moon (770) 279-9924

mobile radio installation

KG4IUM Andrea Hartlage (770) 963-2715  
making QSL cards

KG4FXG, Bill Carter, (770) 339-4531 Mobile CW

WA4DYD, Stan Edwards (770) 923-8770  
Emergency Communications

### GENERAL INFORMATION:

WE5O Ron Langston (770) 569-8354

N1TWX Win Jackson (404) 869-1347

W4WKP Johnnie Fearon (770) 207-0020

WB2YAD Duane Reynolds

WB9JSW, Carl Plotz

K4MJK Mike Kovak

K4CB Carter Bennett (770) 923-5446

W4ADE Ade Wirth (770) 614-3743

K4HBI Mike Swiderski (770) 449-0369

W8KJM, Barney Barnes (APRS)

## CLUB OFFICERS

### President

David Adcock, KA4KKF

### Vice President

Earl Whatley, AF4FG

### Secretary

Ken Dalton, KI4BQS

### Treasurer

Dan Keohan, KF4YSU

### Activities Manager

John Davis, WB4QDX

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Ron Langston, WE5O

Carl Plotz, WB9JSW

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Don Ernest, KS4WR

### Net Manager

Scott Hartlage, KF4PWI

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Win Jackson, N1TWX  
(404)869-1347

### Club Meeting Coordinator

Jack Shipley, W4UVQ

### Apparel Manager

Dan Keohan, KF4YSU

### Holiday Party Co-Chairs

Carl Plotz, WB9JSW

Mavis Plotz, N9FWG

### QSL Manager

Ade Wirth, W4ADE  
(770)614-3743

### Webmaster

Norman Schklar, WA4ZXV

### Scholarship Chairman

Carter Wood, AG4LK

### Technical Advisor

Mike Swiderski, K4HBI

❖❖❖



Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

PO Box 88

Lilburn, GA 30048

To receive the **Garzette** via e mail contact **David Branch**, KG4ZKN, [kg4zkn@arrl.net](mailto:kg4zkn@arrl.net)

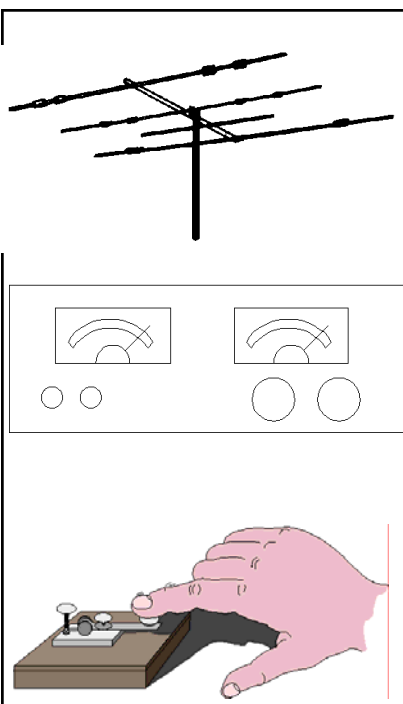


### ***GARS Christmas Party***

***December 3, 2004***

The dates been set So, get it on your calendar and plan to attend.

Reservations should be made with Carl, WB9JSW, [wb9jsw@bellsouth.net](mailto:wb9jsw@bellsouth.net).



### **Tech Fest**

January 22, 2005

Ray Back is spearheading this years Tech Fest. So contact Ray with your ideas and presentations.

